

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Dinesh O. Shah, et al.

Serial No.: 09/891,983

Filed: June 26, 2001

For: METHODS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS  
DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV  
ANTIBODIES

Attorney Docket No.: 6821.US.01

Examiner: D. Wortman

Group Art Unit: 1648

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Kimberly A. Iorio 1-15-03  
Kimberly A. Iorio Date

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**RECEIVED**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

JAN 24 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

The following information is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98 in accordance with Applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56. This submission is not an admission that the documents cited herein are prior art as to the invention claimed. In accordance with 37 CFR §§1.97(g)-(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that other material information as defined by 37 CFR §1.56(a) exists.

Applicants submit herewith Form PTO 1449 listing the reference known to them. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner (1) initial each reference listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449 indicating that the Examiner has considered and made that reference of record in this application and (2) return a copy of the initialed Form PTO 1449 to Applicants. Copies of the references are also enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the first Office Action on the merits, but before the issuance of a final action or a notice of allowance. Authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 01-0025 in the amount necessary to cover the cost of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) is provided in the Transmittal Letter, submitted herewith.

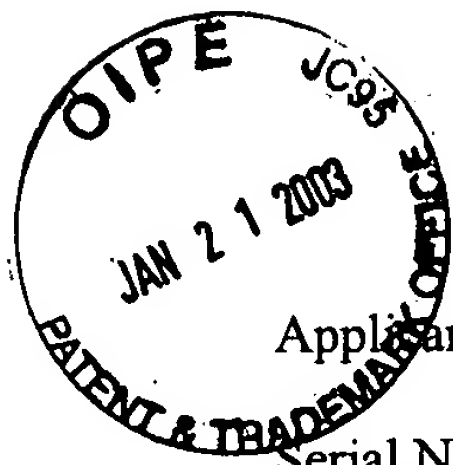


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Respectfully submitted,  
D. Shah, et al.

Cheryl L. Becker  
Cheryl L. Becker  
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Attorney for Applicants



1648

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above entitled METHODS FOR THE  
SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES are the  
following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement (1 page);
2. Form PTO - 1449 (1 Page), in duplicate, with 1 Reference;
3. Return Receipt Postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional Filing Fees required  
under 37 CFR §1.16, as well as any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17  
associated with this communication for which full payment had not been tendered, to Deposit  
Account No. 01-0025. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.



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